



# United States Department of the Interior

## GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

P.O. BOX 1716  
CARLSBAD, NEW MEXICO 88220

IN REPLY  
REFER TO:

April 21, 1976

RECEIVED

MAY 27 1976

U. S. Geological Survey  
Carlsbad, N.M.

Mr. Clifford M. Gibbs  
Superintendent, Underground Operations  
The Anaconda Company  
New Mexico Operations, Uranium Division  
P. O. Box 638  
Grants, New Mexico 87020

Dear Mr. Gibbs:

This letter identifies the following items of additional supplementary information necessary for the preparation of the Environmental Analysis for your company's recently submitted mining and reclamation plan.

1. Would the P-17 shaft also be downcast, and how many CFM total would be required for the P-17 Mine? How many of the P-17 vent holes would be downcast and how many upcast?
2. How deep would the settling ponds at each mine be?
3. Would the sewage lagoons at each mine conform to state standards, and would they be associated with any other sanitation facilities (e.g., aeration system with clarifier and chlorinator tanks)? According to state law, would it be permissible to bury the residual waste material in the lagoons at the end of mining operations?
4. Would there be any service roads to the settling ponds and sewage lagoons at the mines? If so, how much area would they occupy?
5. How long (approximately) would the reclamation work at each mine take?
6. Please provide a brief description of the geologic structures in the P-15 and P17 areas (faults, bedding, anticlines, synclines, etc.).

7. Please provide a brief description of the geologic hazards, if any, in the P-15 and P-17 areas (landslides, explosive gases, seismic risk, etc.).
8. Please provide a brief description of the other mineral and/or non-mineral resources in the mine areas (e.g., vanadium, coal, oil, gas).
9. Please supply a brief description of the P-15 and P-17 ore deposits including the following:
  - a. range in length from \_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_ feet.
  - b. range in width from \_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_ feet.
  - c. range in thickness from \_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_ feet.
  - d. maximum thickness of \_\_\_\_ feet.
  - e. average thickness of \_\_\_\_ feet.
  - f. range in depths from \_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_ feet, and
  - g. maximum, minimum and average separations between stacked ore bodies.
10. Please provide a brief description of the soils in the mine areas.
11. What are the uses of the waters in the Paguate Reservoir and the unidentified reservoir outside of Laguna at the head of Rio San Jose (according to USGS 7.5 Minute Series Map, Laguna Quadrangle)? Do you have any information on the quality of the waters in these reservoirs and on the quality of water from any wells in or near the mine areas?

Thank you for your cooperation and assistance.

Sincerely yours,



Dale C. Jones  
Mining Engineer

DCJ:cj